

1 That which is claimed is:

2 1. An information management and synchronous communications system for
3 generating and transmitting menus comprising:

4 a. a central processing unit,

5 b. a data storage device connected to said central processing unit,

6 c. an operating system including a graphical user interface,

7 d. a first menu consisting of menu categories, said menu categories
8 consisting of menu items, said first menu stored on said data storage device and displayable in a
9 window of said graphical user interface in a hierarchical tree format,

10 e. a modifier menu stored on said data storage device and displayable in a
11 window of said graphical user interface,

12 f. a sub-modifier menu stored on said data storage device and displayable in
13 a window of said graphical user interface, and

14 g. application software for generating a second menu from said first menu
15 and transmitting said second menu to a wireless handheld computing device or Web page,

16 wherein the application software facilitates the generation of the second menu by
17 allowing selection of categories and items from the first menu, addition of menu categories to the
18 second menu, addition of menu items to the second menu and assignment of parameters to items
19 in the second menu using the graphical user interface of said operating system, said parameters

1 being selected from the modifier and sub-modifier menus, wherein said second menu is manually
2 modified after generation.

3
4 2. An information management and synchronous communications system for
5 generating menus comprising:

- 6 a. a central processing unit,
- 7 b. a data storage device connected to said central
8 processing unit,
- 9 c. an operating system including a graphical user
10 interface,
- 11 d. a first menu stored on said data storage device,
- 12 e. application software for generating a second menu
13 from said first menu,

14 wherein the application software facilitates the generation of the second menu by
15 allowing selection of items from the first menu, addition of items to the second menu and
16 assignment of parameters to items in the second menu using the graphical user interface of said
17 operating system and wherein data comprising the second menu is synchronized between the
18 data storage device connected to the central processing unit and at least one other computing
19 device, wherein said second menu is manually modified by handwriting or voice recording after
20 generation.

1 3. An information management and synchronous communications system for
2 generating menus comprising:

- 3 a. a microprocessor,
- 4 b. a display device,
- 5 c. a data and instruction input device,
- 6 d. a data storage device for storing information and
7 instructions entered through said data and
8 instruction input means or information generated by
9 said microprocessor,
- 10 e. an operating system,
- 11 f. a master menu stored on said data storage device for
12 generating a modified menu, and
- 13 g. application software,

14 wherein said microprocessor, operating system and application software are operative to display
15 the master menu on the display device in response to instructions programmed into said
16 microprocessor, operating system, application software and information and instructions entered
17 through said data input device, and wherein said microprocessor, operating system and
18 application software are operative to create the modified menu from said master menu in
19 response to information and instructions entered through said data and instruction input device
20 and wherein data comprising the modified menu is synchronized between the data storage device

1 and at least one other computing device, wherein said modified menu is manually modified after
2 generation.

3
4 4. In a computer system having an input device, a storage device, a video display,
5 an operating system including a graphical user interface and application software, an information
6 management and synchronous communications method comprising the steps of:

- 7 a. outputting at least one window on the video display;
- 8 b. outputting a first menu in a window on the video
9 display;
- 10 c. displaying a cursor on the video display;
- 11 d. selecting items from the first menu with the input
12 device or the graphical user interface;
- 13 e. inserting the items selected from the first menu into
14 a second menu, the second menu being output in a
15 window;
- 16 f. optionally adding additional items not included in
17 the first menu to the second menu using the input
18 device or the graphical user interface;
- 19 g. storing the second menu on the storage device; and

1 synchronizing the data comprising the second menu between the storage device
2 and at least one other data storage medium, wherein the other data storage medium is connected
3 to or is part of a different computing device, and wherein said second menu is manually modified
4 after generation.

5
6 5. The information management and synchronous communications system of
7 claim 1, 2, or 3 wherein the manual modification involves handwriting capture.

8
9 6. The information management and synchronous communications
10 system of claim 1, 2, or 3 wherein the manual modification involves voice capture.

11
12 7. The method of claim 4 wherein the manual modification involves
13 handwriting capture.

14
15 8. The method of claim 4 wherein the manual modification involves voice
16 capture.

17
18 9. The system of claim 1 wherein the modified second menu can be
19 selectively printed on any printer directly from the graphical user interface of a hand-held device.

20
21 10. The system of claim 1 wherein the modified second menu can be linked to
22 a specific customer at a specific table directly from the graphical user interface of a hand-held
23 device.

1
2 11. The system of claim 2 or 3 wherein the modified second menu can be
3 selectively printed on any printer directly from the graphical user interface of said other
4 computing device.

5
6 12. The system of claim 2 or 3 wherein the modified second menu can be
7 linked to a specific customer at a specific table directly from the graphical user interface of said
8 other computing device.

9
10 13. The system of claim 5 wherein the handwriting capture involves
11 handwriting recognition and conversion to text.

12
13 14. The system of claim 6 wherein the voice capture involves voice
14 recognition and conversion to text.

15
16 15. The method of claim 7 wherein the handwriting capture involves
17 handwriting recognition and conversion to text.

18
19 16. The method of claim 8 wherein the voice capture involves voice
20 recognition and conversion to text.